

## **REMARKS**

### **Reconsideration And Allowance Are Respectfully Requested.**

Claims 1-3, 5-8, 11 and 12 are currently pending. Claims 1 and 7 have been amended. Claims 4, 9 and 10 were canceled via a prior amendment. Claim 12 has been added. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

With regard to the outstanding rejection, claims 1-3, 5-8 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,263,136 to Knouse (Knouse). This rejection is respectfully traversed in view of the preceding amendments and the remarks which follow.

In particular, claim 1 has been amended so as to define an ergonomic handle offering users a choice of horizontally or vertically gripping an appliance attached thereto. The handle includes a first handle member shaped and dimensioned for gripping by an individual. The first handle member has a first longitudinal axis, a first end and a second end. A second handle member is also provided. The second handle member is shaped and dimensioned for gripping by an individual. The second handle member has a second longitudinal axis, a first end and a second end. The first end and the second end of the second handle member are provided with reduced diameters when compared to a central portion of the second handle member. The first end and second end of the second handle member are shaped and dimensioned to accommodate the palms and fingers of a hand of a user. The first handle member and the second handle member are connected such that the second longitudinal axis of the second handle member is oriented approximately perpendicular relative to the first longitudinal axis of the first handle member. The first end of the first handle

member is connected to the second end of the second handle member, the second end of the first handle member is free and unconnected to the appliance and the first end of the second handle member is connected directly to the appliance with the appliance extending downwardly therefrom along the first longitudinal axis of the first handle member.

In contrast to the claimed invention, Knouse discloses a handle structure for a portable saw. The handle structure includes handle members 10 and 12. However, the handle members are very different from the first and second handle members disclosed and claimed in accordance with the present invention. In particular, neither of the handle members disclosed by Knouse include a second end which is free and unconnected to the appliance. The utilization of a free and unconnected second end of the first handle member is critical to operation of the present invention in that it allows for greater versatility in shifting the user's hands while working with the appliance. In addition, by providing a free and unconnected second end of the first handle member, the present invention is further allowed to utilize a swivel member shaped and dimensioned for positioning a thumb of a user thereon. The swivel member is secured at the second end of the first handle member and allows for rotation thereof relative to the remainder of the handle to allow for both left and right handed users to readily take advantage of the present invention. Without leaving the second end of the first handle member free and unconnected to the appliance, it would be impossible to utilize a swivel member as claimed and disclosed in accordance with the present invention.

In addition, the saw disclosed by Knouse does not extend downwardly from the second handle member along the longitudinal axis of the second handle member. This distinction is very important to the operation and use of the present handle in conjunction with preferred appliances,

for example, a hand mixer. By positioning the appliance downwardly from the second handle member along the second longitudinal axis, ideal weighting of the total appliance, that is, the handle and the appliance, is achieved in a manner which optimizes the usefulness of the present handle in conjunction with a mixer. This allows the user to hold this mixer in a variety of orientations without undue arm strain encountered by using less ergonomically designed handles.

With the foregoing in mind, it is Applicant's opinion, amended claim 1 overcomes the prior art of record and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection based upon Knouse be withdrawn.

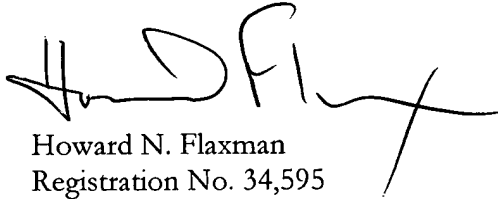
As to those claims dependent upon independent claim 1, they are believed to be overcome for the reasons discussed above and Applicant requests these rejections be withdrawn.

Further, and with regard to claim 7, this claim has been amended so as to define that the swivel member is shaped and dimensioned to be continuous in shape with the remainder of the first handle member. The outstanding Office Action apparently has applied the trigger structure to read upon the swivel member. However, the trigger structure of Knouse is not continuous in shape with the remainder of the handle member as it is desirable that the trigger structure be distinctive in both shape and feel from the remainder of the handle. With this in mind, claim 7 is also believed to overcome the prior art of record for the reasons presented above.

With the foregoing in mind, it is Applicant's opinion that the outstanding rejections have been overcome and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn.

It is believed that this case is in condition for allowance and reconsideration thereof and early issuance is respectfully requested. If it is felt that an interview would expedite prosecution of this application, please do not hesitate to contact applicants' representative at the below number.

Respectfully submitted,



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Docket No. SKI-001